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# BOROUGH OF RYE



## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1952

By

M. I. SILVERTON, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Rye Borough Council,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1952.

The health of the Borough continues to compare favourably with the rest of England and Wales, the Corrected Death Rate being 10.56 for the Borough as against 11.3 for the whole of England and Wales.

There were sixteen cases of confirmed Poliomyelitis within the Borough. An account of this unfortunate outbreak will be published in "The Medical Officer" of the 21st November, 1953, and a copy will be sent to you soon after publication.

It is extremely satisfying to record that there have been no cases of diphtheria for the past eight years. The incidence of the other infectious diseases is discussed fully in the general text.

The preparation of this Report and my paper on Poliomyelitis has greatly increased the pressure and volume of work of my clerical staff, and I wish to take this opportunity to thank them and particularly the Chief Clerk (Miss Portnell) for their painstaking assistance and cheerful acceptance of these added tasks.

I am grateful to the Chief Sanitary Inspector and the Additional Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Green) for their willing co-operation at all times.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Gower) has supplied the statistical information relevant to the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough given in this report. It will be noted that his other official duties include those of Borough Surveyor and Water Superintendent, and that he has included reports on these matters.

I am obliged to the Town Clerk and the Treasurer for their courtesy and help.

The Housing Committee has given every consideration to my pleas for the rehousing of deserving families.

I wish to thank you for your encouragement and support during the past year.

I have the honour to be,  
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Watch Oak,  
Rye, Sussex.

M. I. SILVERTON

Medical Officer of Health.





.....

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health:

M. I. SILVERTON, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor, Town  
Planning Officer and Water Superintendent:

H. C. GOWER, M.Inst.R.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

R. C. GREEN, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

The staff of the Battle Rural District Council Public Health Department carry out all the clerical work of the Medical Officer of Health.

Diphtheria Immunisation  
and Vaccination Clerk: MISS M. H. HEARNshaw.  
(County Staff employed locally)

## STATISTICS RELATING TO THE BOROUGH OF RYE

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
Area of Borough in acres	1,021	1,021	1,021
Population by census (Provisional)		4,511	
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year)	4,506	4,442	4,517
Rateable Value	£43,102	£44,925	£45,227
Number of inhabited houses	1,479	1,515	1,542
Number of rateable premises	1,758	1,834	1,863
Sum represented by a penny rate	£167	£171	£174





SECTION I

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATE

Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	37	35	72
Illegitimate	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>37</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>72</u>

Stillbirths

Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of home population	15.9
Corrected Birth Rate	17.2
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of home population (England and Wales)	15.3
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 home population (Borough of Rye)	0.44
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 home population (England and Wales)	0.35
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 births (live and still) (Borough of Rye)	27.02
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 births (live and still) (England and Wales)	22.6

The Corrected Birth Rate takes into account the abnormal constitution of the population of this Borough in which there is a predominance of higher age groups and is therefore the appropriate figure when comparison is made with the rest of England and Wales.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES

Deaths

Year	Male	Female	Total
1948	23	33	56
1949	33	33	66
1950	21	38	59
1951	20	31	51
1952	29	33	62



# Deaths and Death Rates (Continued)

Death Rate per 1,000 of home population (Borough of Rye)	13.72
Corrected Death Rate for Borough of Rye	10.56
Death Rate per 1,000 of home population (England and Wales)	11.3

It is well known that this Borough is particularly favoured by those persons retiring from active life and is thus heavily weighed for age as compared with England and Wales as a whole, and so we get an apparently increased death rate. The Registrar General is aware of this and has given us a method of overcoming this bias by introducing a "comparability factor" of 0.77 for this Borough, thus giving a Corrected Death Rate of 10.56 which compares with 11.3 for England and Wales.

## Infant Deaths and Death Rates.

Deaths of infants under 1 year (Borough of Rye)	Two
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 live births	27.7
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 related live births (England and Wales)	27.6
Death Rate for diarrhoea (infants under 2 years) per 1,000 live births (Borough of Rye)	Nil
Death Rate for diarrhoea (infants under 2 years) per 1,000 live births (England and Wales)	1.1

## Maternal Deaths.

Borough of Rye	...	...	...	...	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births, Borough of Rye					Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births, England and Wales					0.72

## Death Rates per 1,000 home population for certain specific causes

	England and Wales		Borough of Rye	
	1951	1952	1951	1952
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	nil	nil
Whooping cough	0.01	0.00	nil	nil
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	nil	nil
Tuberculosis	0.31	0.24	0.22	nil
Influenza	0.38	0.04	nil	nil
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	nil	nil
Pneumonia	0.61	0.47	0.45	nil
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	0.00	0.01	nil	0.44





Detailed Causes of Death

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Acute poliomyelitis	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	0	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	3	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	5	7
Coronary disease, angina	7	2	9
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	6	16	22
Other circulatory disease	0	1	1
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	1	1
Congenital malformations	1	0	1
Other defined and ill- defined diseases	3	1	4
Accidents, other than motor	0	1	1
Totals	29	33	62

The chief causes of death in order of frequency were:-

- (i) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system ... 34 (54.8%)
- (ii) Malignant neoplasms (cancer) ... 8 (12.9%)
- (iii) Vascular lesions of nervous system ... 7 (11.2%)

It will be observed that there were 62 deaths from all causes and of these 47 (75.8%) occurred in persons of 65 years of age or over.

75.8% deaths over 65 in the Borough of Rye compares with 66.5% deaths over 65 in England and Wales for 1951. (1952 figures for England and Wales are not yet available.)





TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS

	1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
<u>PULMONARY</u> Additions to Register	3	3	3	5	0	0	1	4	2	0	1	4
Total on Register at 31st December	12	10	11	13	7	10	8	14	8	11	9	13
<u>NON-PULMONARY</u> Additions to Register	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Total on Register at 31st December	5	3	4	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-pulmonary</u>
Death Returns of cases not previously notified	-	-
Transfers from other areas	1	-
Cases restored to Register	-	-
New Cases (Primary notifications)	4	1

TABULATED LIST IN AGE GROUPS OF NEW CASES NOTIFIED IN THIS BOROUGH AND ALL DEATHS DURING THE CURRENT YEAR

	New Cases (Primary Notifications)				All Deaths			
Age	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
11-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16-25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
26-45	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
46-60	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
61 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-



MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

Doctor B. G. Rigden, the Director of the East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit visited Rye from 1st September to 9th September, 1952.

Herewith analysis of results:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of persons X-Rayed:	230	206	436
Number recalled for further X-Rays:	20	10	30
Number found to have Abnor- malities:	16	8	24

Analysis of Abnormalities:

(a) Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis:	2	Nil	2
(b) Inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis:	6	3	9
(c) Malignant Disease:	Nil	Nil	Nil
(d) Other Disease of Lung or Pleura:	6	4	10
(e) Cardio-Vascular Diseases:	1	1	2

(1 film unclassified)

Number (per 1,000 persons X-Rayed) with Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis:	4.58
---	------

NOTE: No persons under 15 years are X-Rayed, except school leavers.

The results obtained are strictly confidential and only communicated to the private doctors of persons found to have abnormalities.

The surrounding district was publicised and the newspapers were helpful in giving advance publicity for this scheme.

It is hoped that further visits will be made and that more people will take advantage of this worthwhile service, it would be ideal if this survey could become an annual event.

Early diagnosis ensures a more complete recovery in less time and limits the incidence of tuberculosis by the treatment of infected persons who would otherwise be spreading the disease in their families and at work unknown to themselves.





# INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Comparative Statistics for the years 1947 - 1952

1st January-31st December respectively

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Scarlet fever	0	4	4	13	10	22
Measles	9	132	30	0	116	8
Pneumonia	0	0	13	3	12	12
Erysipelas	1	1	4	2	3	1
Whooping cough	15	76	0	58	54	1
Poliomyelitis	1	0	0	2	2	16 *
Meningococcal infection	0	0	0	0	0	1

\* 22 cases of poliomyelitis were notified and 16 of these were confirmed.

## Poliomyelitis

Unfortunately there were two deaths, the remaining patients have made or are in process of making good recoveries and are overcoming their disabilities.

Comparatively few people appear to be susceptible to this virus although they may contribute to the chain of infection.

Personal hygiene, in particular the careful washing of hands after using the lavatory may be an important factor in limiting the spread of this disease.

## Diphtheria

For the past eight years this Borough has been free from diphtheria. Relevant immunisation statistics are given on page 10.

## Measles

As forecast in my last report there has been a substantial decrease for the year under review. There were no admissions to hospital and no deaths.

Abrupt changes in incidence from year to year is typical of this infection and it is likely that 1953 will show an increase.

## Scarlet fever

Although the numbers notified show a substantial increase the disease itself has been mild with no serious complications or deaths. The majority were nursed in their own homes, of which course I approve, except where other members of the family are milkers or food handlers, and effective isolation of the case is not possible.

## Dysentery

### Food Poisoning Outbreaks in 1952

Total number of outbreaks	..	..	Nil
Number of cases	..	..	Nil
Number of deaths	..	..	Nil

Other diseases The incidence of the other infectious diseases have no particular significance.



SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1952

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTALS
Scarlet fever	3	3	4	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	5	22
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	3	8
Pneumonia	2	6	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	13	1	16
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	5	9	6	2	3	4	1	1	1	1	19	9	61

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping cough	Poliomyelitis	Meningococcal infection	TOTALS
Under 1 year	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
1 year	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
2 years	2	1	2	-	-	3	-	8
3 years	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
4 years	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	5
5-10 years	11	5	-	-	1	6	-	23
11-15 years	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	5
16-25 years	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
26-35 years	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
36-45 years	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
46-65 years	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Over 65	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	4
TOTALS	22	8	12	1	1	16	1	61





### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During 1952 the following children received injections:-

<u>Primary Immunisation</u>	<u>Under 1.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5-9</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>Total</u>
Treated at Clinics	5	7	-	-	1	3	1	17
By Private Doctors	34	13	1	-	-	1	-	49
<u>Re-inforcing Injection</u>								
Treated at Clinics	-	-	-	-	-	78	-	78
By Private Doctors	-	-	1	1	1	10	2	15
Totals - Under 5								
5-14 (inc.)								
Re-inforcing								
61								
5								
93								

The number of children under 15 years of age, resident in the Borough, who had been immunised by 31st December, 1952:-

Under 5 years ...	264
5-14 (inc.) ...	597
	<u>861</u>

Comparative figures for the past three years:-

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
No. immunised under 5 years	268	285	264
Child population (under 5)	402	420	382 *
Percentage immunised	66.66%	67.85%	69.11%
No. immunised 5-14 (inclusive)	592	595	597
Child population (5-14)	609	610	649 *
Percentage immunised	97.20%	97.54%	91.98%

\* The Registrar General is unable to supply population figures for 1952. The figures given are therefore estimated.

### VACCINATION

Number vaccinated during 1952:-

	<u>Under 1.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>15 or over</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary vaccination	48	-	-	2	5	53
Re-vaccination	-	-	1	3	14	18

Comparative figures for the past three years:-

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
Primary vaccination	70	91	53
Re-vaccination	11	96	18

Number of babies born in 1952 ... 72

Number of babies under 1 year vaccinated in 1952 48

Percentage vaccinated in 1952 ... 66.66%





### CLEAN FOOD

Responsible members of the food distributing trades are becoming increasingly aware of the necessity for personal hygiene in food handling but we still have a submerged "tenth" who do not appear to realise their obligations to their fellows and they are a persistent menace who must be kept under constant supervision.

Their dubious methods are usually well established and having been fortunate in the past in not having been detected as the known focus of infection they obstinately refuse to adopt accepted hygiene practices.

It is interesting to note that when a shop of this type changes hands the new owner is almost without exception keen and willing to improve the amenities, and the transformation both inside and outside the shop is only too obvious.

The consumers are somewhat blameworthy in that they patronise shops who patently transgress, e.g. clouds of flies, particularly in fish shops, smelly, rather dark, interiors in poor decorative state, and overcrowded with foods of various types, some in tins and pre-packed, others exposed to any form of contamination that may elect to alight upon them. Until the public becomes more selective in their shopping so will these potentially dangerous shops remain with us.

The Sanitary Inspectors are assiduous in their efforts to improve standards and are making headway, but one hopes the public will realise the need for active co-operation.

### MILK PRODUCTION AND PRODUCERS

The following is a comparative estimate of the percentage of different types of milk produced in the surrounding district:-

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
T. T. Milk .. ..	20%	29.3%	35.35%	41.0%
Accredited Milk .. ..	10%	5.4%	8.72%	5.1%
Undesignated . . . .	70%	65.3%	55.93%	53.8%

The progressive increase in the percentage of T. T. Milk is noted with satisfaction.

The bulk of the milk supplied in the Borough is either pasteurised or T.T.

### REHOUSING OF HOMELESS FAMILIES

An ever recurring problem is presented by the young family not ordinarily domiciled in the Borough but unsuitably accommodated. Maybe as a sub-tenant in overcrowded conditions or in poorly furnished rooms, lacking the necessary amenities, with all the attendant evils of such accommodation, and paying an exorbitant rent out of all proportion to the wage-earning capacity of the husband, thus additionally hazarding the nutrition of the family.

Representation to the Housing Committee for rehousing is made but they quite rightly consider that they should make their selection from families normally resident in the Borough, and known to have been enduring poor housing conditions for some considerable time.

It does not appear/





### Rehousing of Homeless Families (continued)

It does not appear equitable that these newly arrived families should "jump the queue" because they find themselves in worse circumstances, in some measure due to their own volition. However, the problem of the "new" family remains and their situation is urgent. An appeal to the County Welfare Officer brings forth the reply that it is the duty of the Housing Authority and so no help can be hoped for from this direction.

How long must these unfortunates remain "stateless" persons before they can be considered for rehousing on an equal footing with other residents who have established claims? When a family of this type is rehoused after a considerable lapse of time one quite often hears bitter complaints that persons with no previous connection with the Borough have been rehoused to the detriment of local applicants.

Consideration should be given to this matter in order to achieve a reasonable solution without subsequent recriminations.

A measure of hope could then be given to these families, otherwise it is intolerable that they should have to continue in this fashion, experiencing a complete lack of interest and possible rebuff from those in authority.

Situations of this type breed anxiety and insecurity and contribute to matrimonial upsets, with consequent ill effects on the mental stability of their offspring.

### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE

The Infant Welfare Centre is held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in every month at the Youth Club Centre, Lion Street, Rye.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

#### (a) Section 47. Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

Fortunately it was not found necessary to invoke these provisions during the year under review.

#### (b) Section 50. Burial or Cremation of the Dead

No action was taken under this Section.

### HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE

This service continues to fulfil a very necessary function in and around the Borough bringing treatment into the homes of patients who would otherwise have to spend many weary and painful hours in travelling and waiting for buses in all sorts of weather, with probable aggravation of existing symptoms.

During the period 1st April, 1952 to 31st March, 1953, 2,552 visits were made in the Borough of Rye and Battle Rural District compared with 2,143 in the corresponding period of the previous year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The facilities available at the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton, have been used extensively and I am obliged to the Director (Dr. J. E. Jameson) for his help and co-operation.





## PREVENTION OF VENEREAL DISEASES

The Ministry of Health asked for the co-operation of all Local Authorities in giving publicity to the ever present danger of Venereal Diseases. Posters supplied by the Ministry were accordingly displayed at suitable vantage points throughout the Borough. Details regarding Treatment Centres and times of attendance were overprinted.

## NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

Satisfactory liaison was maintained with Inspector Boobyer but he, unfortunately, left the district during the year and it was some time before he was replaced.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>
Cases	533	546	627
Mileage	16,142	13,626	14,208

The cost of the Ambulance Service as a whole is the responsibility of the County Council and the St. John Ambulance Brigade supply the trained personnel. This is an excellent example of the fusion of paid and voluntary services working in unison to provide a first-class service.

## INDUSTRIES

The numbers employed in the main industries in the Borough are given below. Working conditions are generally good and the employers have been co-operative. There were no outworkers.

A comparison is made with the previous year:-

	<u>1951</u>			<u>1952</u>		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Aerated Water Manufacturers	5	3	8	2	1	3
Bakeries	19	22	41	21	29	50
Bedding Makers	3	3	6	3	3	6
Builders	79	1	80	124	2	126
Corn Chandlers	19	2	21	16	2	18
Dressmaking	--	--	--	--	2	2
Engineering Works	113	11	124	118	19	137
Furniture Removers	--	--	--	14	1	15
Laundries	12	48	60	8	50	58
Nursery Gardens	--	--	--	3	--	3
Pottery Works	4	2	6	5	2	7
Printing Works	8	8	16	11	8	19
Sawmills	7	1	8	7	2	9
Ship Repairing	4	--	4	3	--	3
Wastepaper Sorters	8	2	10	5	1	6

Ships: 17 vessels are registered at the Port of Rye and only 1 berths at Rye.

Shipping: There was no cargo shipping at Rye during the year.

Shop-keeping and Catering: Shop-keeping and catering are two mainstays which contribute greatly to the prosperity of the Town.



## SECTION II

The Chief Sanitary Inspector reports:-

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Informal Notices served</u>	<u>Informal Notices complied with.</u>
Alleged nuisances	115		
Smoke nuisances	12	-	-
Provision of dustbins	8	-	-
Existing drains	38	2	2
New building work	200	6	6
Infectious diseases	80	-	-
Vermin and insect pests	-	6 houses disinfected	-
		20 houses disinfected	-

### HOUSING ACT, 1936.

405 inspections and re-inspections of dwellinghouses were carried out for the following reasons:-

1. Houses controlled by the Borough Council
2. Investigation of complaints by Tenants
3. Applications for re-housing on medical grounds, overcrowding, etc.

15 informal notices were served requesting house repairs and all were complied with. The works required by two formal notices outstanding from 1951 were completed.

The following improvements have been carried out at properties controlled by the Borough Council:-

- 29 tiled surround fireplaces complete installed in lieu of ranges or combination grates.
- 7 baths installed.
- 2 brick built solid fuel coppers removed and replaced with gas coppers.
- 1 wash-hand basin installed.
- 32 power and additional electric lighting points installed at 13 houses.
- 1 electric cooker in lieu of solid fuel range.
- 1 W.C. pan.
- 1 sink.
- 1 alteration in position of water supply to make it more easily available.
- 1 gas service laid on.

### HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Improvements to one house were effected under the above mentioned Act involving improved kitchen and W.C. accommodation and the provision of a bathroom.





### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The only dairy premises in the Town are used for the receipt, storage and distribution of designated milks obtained already bottled from suppliers outside the Town. No processing or bottle washing is carried out on the premises. Frequent inspections of the premises have been made and improvements have been carried out to the premises.

The following licences were issued during the year:-

Dealers licences for "Pasteurised" milk	- 2
" " " "Tuberculin Tested" milk	- 2

12 samples of milk were taken for examination and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton. All passed the prescribed tests.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

#### ICE-CREAM

There are now 17 premises registered under the above mentioned, all for the storage and sale of ice-cream. The bulk of ice-cream sold from these premises is pre-packed. It is unfortunate however that in spite of reports and exhortations in the press, the cleanliness of the hands of the consumers of this tasty commodity often appears to be in contradistinction to the care taken in production and distribution. The resulting litter from pre-packed ices after a public gathering is also most annoying.

The general standards of hygiene of the ice-cream trade in the Borough is good.

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The one slaughter house remaining in the Town is used almost entirely for slaughtering a small number of pigs under Ministry of Food licences and for occasional emergency slaughter of animals. The premises are old but are kept in a reasonable state of cleanliness.

All animals destined for human consumption are sent to the central slaughterhouse in Hastings.

Inspections of meat and other foods are often made at the request of the retailers who have noted an abnormal condition prior to sale.

70 inspections of food premises (food shops, catering establishments etc.) have been made.

The following/





Inspection of Meat and Other Foods (continued)

The following is a list of foods inspected during the year and certified as being unfit for human consumption:-

		cwts.	stones	lb.
Meat	- tinned		5	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ham	- tinned		3	4
Fish	- wet	2	4	7
Fish	- tinned		3	12
Vegetables	- tinned		5	4
Fruit	- tinned	1	4	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork			2	0
Soups	- tinned		5	3
Smoked salmon			5	0
Miscellaneous				2 $\frac{3}{4}$
		7	7	0

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following is an abstract from particulars supplied to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries:-

Number of complaints received regarding infestations by rats and mice	90
Number of properties inspected	248
Number of minor rat infestations	223
Number of mouse infestations	22
Number of properties treated by Council operator *	248

\* This involves from 4-6 visits to each property.

Rodent Control treatments of sewers was carried out in January and July. Each course of treatment involves inspecting, baiting and poisoning each of the manholes known to exist on the older sewers together with test baiting at manholes on the newer systems. During the year this means that upwards of 250 inspections of sewer manholes are made in this connection.

Opportunity was taken during minor sewer reconstructions to incorporate baiting points at two manholes.

Visits are made by Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Rodent Control Division) and close liaison is maintained in order that the best possible methods are used.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

25 inspections and visits were made to factories and workplaces.

Improvements to sanitary accommodation was requested at three factories and to decorations at one factory.

There are no outworkers under Section 110 (1)(c) in the Borough.

There were/



### Factories and Workplaces (continued)

There were 53 factories on the register at the end of the year, of these 39 used mechanical power whilst the remaining 13 had no mechanical power.

The duties of the Council in connection with the Factories Act, 1938, are mainly concerned with the provision of suitable and adequate sanitary accommodation.

### WATER SUPPLY

Routine samples are taken for Bacteriological examination once a month and for chemical analysis once a quarter. Other samples are taken as required.

During 1952, 36 Bacteriological samples (23 unchlorinated and 13 chlorinated) and 8 chemical samples (4 unchlorinated and 4 chlorinated) were taken. With the exception of two bacteriological samples all the samples proved to be satisfactory. Both samples were of unchlorinated water and investigations showed that the pollution was associated with the installation of a new pump. Further samples proved to be satisfactory. Samples of water taken after chlorination at all times proved highly satisfactory.

The consumption of water during the year was as follows:-

Pumped from Cadborough Waterworks	-	56,000,000	gallons
Pumped from Military Road	-	13,913,000	"
		<hr/>	
		69,913,000	"
		<hr/>	

This represents an increase of 249,000 gallons over the consumption figures for 1951.

The distribution of the water consumed was as follows:-

Borough of Rye	-	61,827,690	gallons
Hastings C.B. (Rye Harbour)	-	3,760,000	"
Battle R.D. (Playden)-		4,064,000	"
Standpipe		261,310	"
		<hr/>	
		69,913,000	"
		<hr/>	

The Cadborough boreholes continued to produce an ample supply of water and at times during 7 months of the year overflowed some few hours after the cessation of daily pumping.

### ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY

In July work was commenced on the cleaning out of two boreholes and the installation of a new pump. As a result of the cleaning 10-15 feet of silt was removed from the boreholes.

The new pump is a "Sulzer" Borehole Pump capable of delivering approximately 14,000 g.p.h. and was put into service on 7th August, 1952.





### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The automatic sewage ejectors lifted the following amounts of sewage:-

Station A.	Cadborough Marsh	-	1,074,125	gallons
Station B.	Winchelsea Road	-	20,051,850	"
Station C.	New Winchelsea Road	-	1,500,975	"
Station D.	King's Avenue	-	1,998,535	"
Station E.	Tilling Green	-	17,006,028	"
			<u>41,631,513</u>	gallons

### REFUSE COLLECTION

In all 4,503 cubic yards of refuse have been disposed of at Camber Fields tip. Of this amount, 3,315 cubic yards were collected as domestic refuse, the remaining 1,188 cubic yards being accounted for by builders refuse etc., deposited directly at the tip.

### PRIVATE ENTERPRISE BUILDING

During 1952, four houses were completed by private enterprise.

### CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

During the year, 30 licences amounting to a value of £13,555 were issued by the Council and 19 licences to a value of £9,770 were issued by the Ministry of Works.

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The Borough Treasurer who is responsible for lettings of Council Houses has supplied the following statistical information:-

### HOUSING

Accommodation under the letting control of the Council at the 31st December, 1952:-

Assisted Schemes - Pre-war houses	115
Assisted Schemes - Post-war houses and flats	199
Expired Leases - Pre-1914 houses	96
Requisitioned houses and flats	16
Temporary hutments	24
Total dwellings	<u>450</u>

Applicants on Council's Housing Lists:-

	<u>at 31st Dec. 1951</u>	<u>at 31st Dec. 1952</u>
Operative	157	140
Deferred	112	96
Totals	<u>269</u>	<u>236</u>

During the year 1952, twelve dwellings were completed and at the 31st December, twenty-eight dwellings were under contract, making a total of 227. The Council propose erecting a further 22 dwellings in the year 1953.

